

The Global Fight Against CHAGAS DISEASE



Chagas disease is caused by the parasite *Trypanosoma cruzi* and is spread by infected triatomine bugs. It can cause **serious heart and gastrointestinal problems.**

7 million

living with Chagas in the Americas

The parasite that causes Chagas disease is found only in the Americas, where an estimated 7 million people are infected.¹ In the United States, more than 300,000 people are living with the disease.²

300,000

living with Chagas in the U.S.

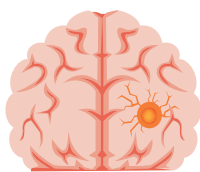


Chagas disease causes approximately

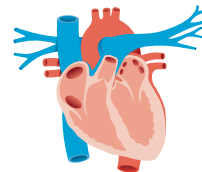
10,000 deaths per year globally.³

Up to **30%** of infected people develop symptoms.

Chagas disease can cause



stroke



heart attack



sudden death



Women infected with *T. cruzi* can pass the disease to their unborn baby.

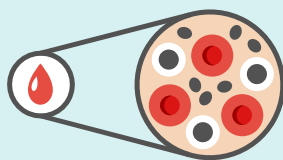


Chagas disease accounts for at least **\$627 million** in global healthcare-related costs annually.⁴

Global efforts to stop Chagas disease include:



Spraying insecticides to eliminate triatomine bugs where they live, in parts of Mexico, Central America, and South America.



Screening blood to prevent spreading the disease through blood transfusions. Widespread screening of the U.S. blood supply for *T. cruzi* began in 2007.



Improved screening of and treatment for Chagas disease, including identification of pregnant mothers with *T. cruzi* infection whose babies may be at risk.



U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention

For more information on Chagas
www.cdc.gov/parasites/chagas

1. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs340/en/> 2. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/26703028_An_Estimate_of_the_Burden_of_Chagas_Disease_in_the_United_States
3. <http://www.who.int/chagas/epidemiology/en/> 4. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23395248>